Amendments to the Specification

On page 4, amend paragraph 11 as follows:

[0011] It is anticipated that the unit 100 may preferably be configured upon ordering at the manufacturer, and then assembled in the selected configuration (left-to-right or right-to-left) as ordered. By having the components being interchangeable, only a single configuration for each of (1) coil unit 150, (2) coil mount 156, (3) spider 135, (4) load cell 110, and (5) bracket 116. The coil unit 150 is connected by a suitable connector, such as an electrical cable, to electronics in the unit 100 such as a printed circuit board disposed in the lower housing section 120. Alternately the unit may be configured in the ~~filed~~field.

On page 14, amend paragraph 66 as follows:

[0066] Fig. 24 illustrates yet another combined EAS and bar code reader with scale system 800 having a single load cell ~~815~~810. The weigh platter (shown removed) which contains the horizontal window 822) rests on load posts 833, 834, 836, 837 which extend to the bottom of the lower housing section 820 connecting onto spider 835. The spider 835 is in turn mounted onto the load cell 810. The load cell 810 is mounted onto a base 856 or chassis such as the bottom of the housing section 820.

On page 15, amend paragraph 69 (into three paragraphs) as follows:

[0069] The systems disclosed may alternately comprise not only EAS deactivation units, but also activation units or

combined activation/deactivation units usable with activatable EAS tags. In addition, the EAS tag deactivators/activators described may include deactivation or activation of various types of EAS tags such as magnetoacoustic, magnetomechanical, magnetostrictive, RF (e.g. RFID), microwave, and harmonic type tags. A preferred configuration for the EAS deactivation coil unit comprises (a) a central core of magnetically active material and (b) outer winding(s) disposed around the central core. Moreover, in each of the above embodiments, the deactivation units may comprise coil units with or without internal (magnetically active) core. For example, deactivation coils without internal core are described in U.S. Patent No. 5,917,412 incorporated by reference.

[0069a] The deactivation units of the above embodiments may be controlled and operated by any suitable scheme as known by one skilled in the art, including but not limited to those schemes disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,917,412; 6,281,796; 6,169,483; and 5,059,951 hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. For example as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,281,796, in operation, an article can be moved past the data reader and once the data reader successfully reads the indicia, a signal is sent to the EAS tag deactivator which then deactivates EAS tag. The EAS tag deactivator will remain energized for a preselected period of time. The time period of energization for EAS tag deactivator will be selected to allow sufficient time for an operator to move article from the data reader to the EAS tag deactivator for deactivation of EAS tag. EAS tag deactivator will turn off after the preselected period of time has expired to reduce power consumption and use, and to

prevent deactivation of EAS tags when no indicia has been read by the data reader.

[0069b] The combined data reader and EAS system may comprise a POS interface unit, that includes POS indicator sensor, signal conditioning for the sensor output signal of indicator sensor, and trigger generation, which generates a trigger signal in response to the sensor output signal. Signal conditioning, as fully described in U.S. Patent No. 6,281,796, selectively recognizes the expected sensor output signal of indicator sensor, and translates signal to trigger generator 16 for generation of trigger signal. The EAS tag deactivator is energized by the trigger signal received from POS interface unit. The indicator sensor may sense the output of data reader indicator non-invasively. The connection of sensor output signal of indicator sensor to POS interface unit can include, but is not limited to, cable, acoustic link, IR link, RF link, optical link, and other wire or wireless links.